

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT/NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

King City, California

Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) Wastewater Treatment Plant and Recycled Water Project

King City (City) is releasing a Public Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) on the City's Proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant and Recycled Water Project. A copy of the IS/MND can be viewed and/or downloaded at <https://www.kingcity.com/>. This IS/MND document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City is the lead agency under CEQA. In addition, the City is seeking grant funds from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program that is administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board). The SRF Program is partially funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and is subject to federal environmental regulations, including the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the General Conformity Rule for the Clean Air Act (CAA), among others. Federal agencies have their own policies on how they comply with federal environmental laws. Instead of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), USEPA has chosen to use CEQA as the compliance base for California's SRF Loan Program, in addition to compliance with ESA, NHPA, and CAA. Collectively, the State Board calls these requirements CEQA-Plus. As a result, this document has been prepared to meet the CEQA-Plus requirements.

Project Location, Purpose, and Description: The City is located in the Salinas Valley of Monterey County, California along the Salinas River and serves a population of 13,443 (2022). The City currently covers 3.9 square miles and is surrounded mostly by agricultural land. The City has a moderate climate with hot, dry summers, and cool, wet winters. Precipitation is almost entirely rain, with most of it falling during the six-month period from November to April. The elevation of the City is approximately 330-feet above sea level in the downtown area and approximately 290-feet above sea level at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)¹. The major transportation route in the area is State Highway 101. The Union Pacific Railroad also serves the area. The City also has an airport, the Mesa Del Rey Airport.

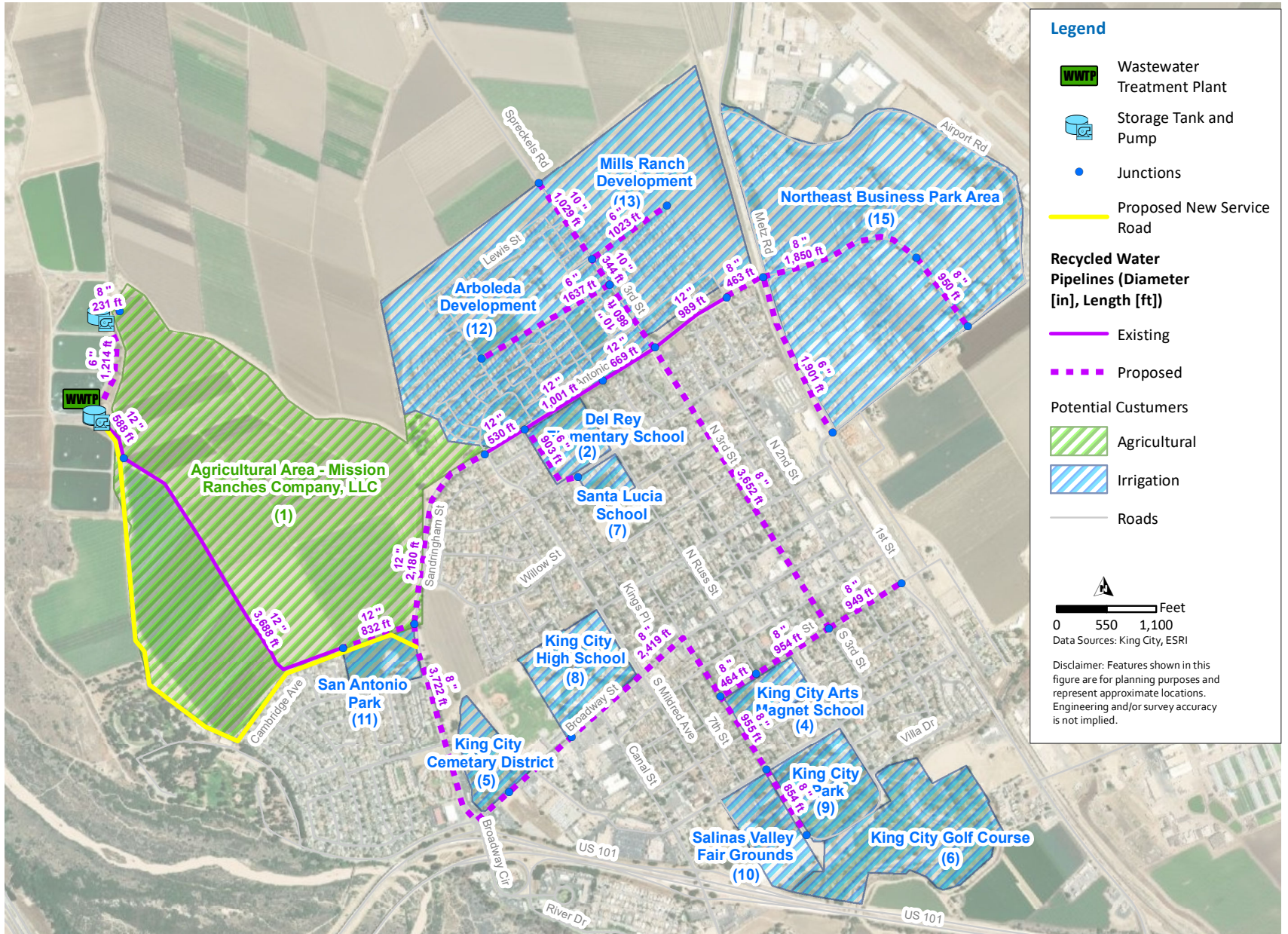
As shown on Figure 1, the Proposed Project is to replace the City's existing WWTP headworks/ponds treatment system and construct a 2.0 mgd maximum month secondary wastewater treatment plant that meets regulatory requirements and planned area growth, as well as construct a 1.8 mgd average day tertiary recycled water treatment plant and approximately 5.3-mile pipeline distribution system that will help offset approximately 1,000 acre-feet per year of potable and agricultural water use in the community. A new access road to the WWTP will also be designed as the existing access road is currently in a farmer's field and has limited to no access to the plant during winter months and flooding events. Both the secondary and tertiary treatment plants would be located within the existing treatment plant boundary. The tertiary recycled water treatment and distribution system is planned to serve agricultural and landscape irrigation users, as well as commercial/process uses.

Significant Environmental Impacts: Potentially significant environmental effects that were addressed in the Public Draft IS/MND include, but are not limited to aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, hydrology/water quality, and traffic and transportation, among others. All of the potentially significant environmental impacts were found to be avoided or result in less than significant impacts with the incorporation of mitigation measures. Reviewers should focus on the content and accuracy of the Draft IS/MND in discussing potential impacts upon the environment and the mitigation measures.

Public Review Period: The Public Draft IS/MND is being circulated for a 30-day review period, starting from **March 29 through May 1, 2023**. Persons responding are urged to submit their comments in writing. Written comments need to be delivered to the City, at the address listed below or by e-mail, by **no later than 5 p.m. on May 1, 2023**.

Doreen Liberto, AICP, Community Development Director
King City
City Hall, 212 South Vanderhurst Avenue

¹ Source: Google earth elevation mapping



Legend

- Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Storage Tank and Pump
- Junctions
- Proposed New Service Road

Recycled Water Pipelines (Diameter [in], Length [ft])

- Existing
- Proposed

Potential Customers

- Agricultural
- Irrigation

Roads

Feet
0 550 1,100
Data Sources: King City, ESRI

Disclaimer: Features shown in this figure are for planning purposes and represent approximate locations. Engineering and/or survey accuracy is not implied.

Figure 1
Overview of Proposed Project

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Doreen Liberto. Copies of the IS/MND are also available for review at the addresses below:

King City
City Hall, 212 South Vanderhurst Avenue
King City, CA 93930

King City Library
402 Broadway Street
King City, CA 93930